

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Parking meter (100) with an input device for means of payment and with an indicating device (7, 8, 9) for indicating a paid parking time and with a central control device (6), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a return device is provided for the return payment of an amount of money corresponding to the parking time which has not been used and a visual indicating device (7) is provided for indicating an amount of money which has not been used.
2. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the input device and the return device is a read-write unit (2) for a chip card (1).
3. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a code can be assigned to the chip card (1).
4. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 3,~~ claim 1, wherein a selection device (3) is provided for the selection of a parking time to be paid and/or of a parking space, in particular a keyboard.

5. (Currently Amended) Parking meter according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein it is provided with a battery.
6. (Currently Amended) Method for running a parking area, in particular with a parking meter according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 5, claim 1, wherein~~ claim 1, whereby a parking time is paid in advance to a parking meter via an input device, characterized in that, wherein, if the parking time is terminated before expiration of the already paid parking time, the corresponding amount of money is returned by a return device and is reproduced by a visual indicating device (7).
7. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the payment and the return payment takes place with a chip card (1).
8. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a codification of the chip card (1) takes place.

9. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the claims 6 to 8,~~ characterized in that claim 6, wherein a parking time and/or a parking space is selected.
10. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the claims 6 to 9,~~ characterized in that claim 6, wherein the parking meter is operated with a battery.